

**Department of Public Works and Transportation
Montgomery County, Maryland**

DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES



Staff gives recycling information to residents at Park Wayne Apartments' National Night Out Against Crime event.

***MONTHLY REPORT
AUGUST 2002***



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In Memoriam

The Division of Solid Waste Services was gravely saddened by the sudden loss of Lawrence Greenfeld on August 18, 2002. Larry was loved by all whom he touched, and he touched us all as a scientist, a public servant and a human spirit.

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OVERVIEW

Tonnage at a Glance

The following table shows key material flows during the current month, fiscal year to date (FY Total), and current calendar month in the two prior fiscal years. (County fiscal year 2003 began July 1, 2002.)

FACILITY	Aug FY 03	FY 03 Total	Aug FY 02	Aug FY 01
Materials Recovery Facility ⁽¹⁾	6,794 tons	13,640 tons	6,448 tons	6,487 tons
Brunswick Landfill Facility ⁽²⁾	22,414 tons	45,428 tons	21,443 tons	14,152 tons
American Ash Recycling ⁽³⁾	N/A	N/A	N/A	3,001 tons
Resource Recovery Facility ⁽⁴⁾	52,119 tons	112,639 tons	57,724 tons	42,977 tons
Yard Trim Compost Facility	2,774 tons	5,781 tons	3,386 tons	4,291 tons

⁽¹⁾MRF tons reported are outgoing.

⁽²⁾This category only addresses waste sent to the landfill for disposal. It does not include rubble that is recycled.

⁽³⁾Tons shipped out to ash recycling facility during the indicated period. All tons so shipped are recycled.

⁽⁴⁾RRF tonnage refers to tons burned (processed). Waste shipped from the Transfer Station but not burned is in the pit and is not included in the tonnage presented here.

Revenue Analysis and Systems Evaluation – During August, program staff:

- Handled routine rate-payers queries (the number of queries, about 30 this month, seems slightly low for the season, perhaps attributable to good phone support up front and our website.)
- Modified nonresidential appeal log to track the processing time.
- Received, logged, evaluated for completeness, and began processing 22 nonresidential appeal applications.
- Processed and entered refund requests for 8 nonresidential appeals.
- Began receiving 6-month licensed collector tonnage reports and entering into the database.
- Assisted in training the new budget manager.
- Held meetings with directors' office and OMB in preparation of FY04 budgeting tools.
- Began preparing the FY04-09 budget tools.
- Continued training property billing quality assurance manager in routine Q&A procedures.
- Began investigating new sources and databases for property data.
- Researched 72 federal properties that are located in Montgomery County.

- Found and solved bug in new hauler billing system (needed to add year recognition to month recognition).
- Sent out monthly hauler bills for August.
- Worked with three haulers to update their surety-bonds.
- Found and solved several First Union lockbox errors (entering the wrong account or wrong customer numbers). Instituted a system to help lockbox manager avoid mistakes.
- Assisted Finance with fiscal year-end work papers.
- Worked with County Assistant Attorney on minor old debt items.
- Referred a past due hauler credit account to County Attorney.
- Found and solved a generic wire transfer problem. The State must now make all payments by wire transfer, but Treasury does not always know where to credit such transfers. Found a web site that tracks all State wire transfers; using this to ensure credit to the Disposal Fund.
- Worked with County Attorney to resolve federal agencies requiring 30 days to pay (contrary to County law which allows only 15 days before applying interest), and began work to modify routine aging reports in the system to accommodate federal requirement and re-calculate interest due.
- Sent 18 property billing changes to SDAT for correction to their database.
- Received 15 changes back from SDAT for confirmation.
- Processed 20 refuse billing changes in the County's mainframe (TXA 170) system.
- Processed 6 vacancy refunds.
- Updated Access and Excel spreadsheets for monthly collection contractors house count reports.

CITIZEN COMMITTEES

Facilities Implementation Group – The next FIG meeting is scheduled for September 10, 2002, at the Gothic Barn in Dickerson. Topics on the agenda are: Election of a new Chair, Non-Air Media Monitoring Program and Historical Interpretation Plan.

Solid Waste Advisory Committee – SWAC met Tuesday, August 6th, in the EOB 6th Floor Conference Room. Ten SWAC members, six County staff and one guest were in attendance. DSWS staff gave presentations on Out-of-County Haul, Gude and Oaks Landfills, and Satellite Drop-offs. The Committee also discussed the MCPS Recycling Report – First Quarter 2002; a recent study by the Reason Foundation on pay-as-you-go waste programs; and collection subdistrict transfers, a topic to be addressed by the County Council this fall. Copies of the 10-Year Solid Waste Management Plan 2002-2011 update were distributed to SWAC members.

COLLECTIONS

Refuse – Refuse collections went as scheduled for the month of August. Collections were made without incident.

Recycling – Mixed paper tonnages for the residential program during the past 52 weeks are as follows:

8/6/01 through 8/31/01	9.10 lbs. per household
9/3/01 through 9/28/01	10.08 lbs. per household
10/1/01 through 10/26/01	11.10 lbs. per household
10/29/01 through 11/23/01	10.83 lbs. per household
11/26/01 through 12/21/01	11.52 lbs. per household
12/24/01 through 1/18/02	9.58 lbs. per household
1/21/02 through 2/15/02	9.01 lbs. per household
2/18/02 through 3/15/02	9.02 lbs. per household
3/18/02 through 4/12/02	9.73 lbs. per household
4/15/02 through 5/10/02	9.81 lbs. per household
5/13/02 through 6/7/02	9.58 lbs. per household
6/10/02 through 7/5/02	9.21 lbs. per household
7/8/02 through 8/2/02	8.74 lbs. per household

Contractor Performance – During the month of August, DSWS received 598 complaints, 11 less than August 2001 (which had 609 complaints).

Customer Service – DSWS received 9,651 incoming calls and 214 follow-up calls were made for quality check. There were 1,665 blue bins delivered and 415 e-mail requests handled by the Customer Service Staff.

Enforcement Actions – One \$500 citation for not having a valid collectors tag attached was issued for violation of the County's Solid Waste Laws.

Five NOV's were issued for violations of the County's Solid Waste Laws:

Two NOV's	Solid wastes stored outside storage containers
Two NOV's	Dump, deposit or leave solid wastes within the county
One NOV	Improperly stored or permitted solid wastes to accumulate

WASTE MINIMIZATION

Bicycle Recycling – In August, 24 bikes were picked up by Pedals for Progress. The total weight of bikes sent out was approximately 0.45 tons.

Computer Recycling – Approximately 34 tons of computers were recycled.

Department of Environmental Protection's Home Composting and Source Reduction Activities – The Green Man column with recommendations on alternative (resource conserving) landscaping continues in several Maryland editions of The Gazette Newspapers and on the web at both <http://www.gazette.net/columnists/> and greenman@askdep.com

Revised grasscycling posters and new grasscycling rulers are being distributed at events (such as the County Fair, etc.) and in response to advertisements, as are promotional materials and literature for the Rainscapes alternative landscaping initiative (see www.rainscapes.org).

HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAMS

Household Hazardous Waste Collection – There were two HHW events in August; August 4th at the Transfer Station and August 18th at Silver Spring Parking Lot #2. The events were attended by 635 and 518 patrons, respectively.

At the above events, 157 Hg thermometers were collected and 80 digitals given out (47 Hg/25 digitals at the Transfer Station and 110 Hg/55 digitals at Silver Spring). In addition, 2 Hg thermometers were dropped off at the Transfer Station office, and 2 digital thermometers were given out.

Shop drawings for the roof over the HHW compound have been returned to the contractor with marked revisions.

Small Quantity Generator Ecowise Program – One Small Quantity Generator (SQG)/Ecowise event was held on August 14th; 15 businesses participated.

AIR PERMITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

Resource Recovery Facility (RRF): CEMS Tracking of RRF Operations – The Continuous Emissions Monitoring System (CEMS) continued to track the percent load, certain engineering parameters and emissions of all three units. The system recorded emissions from all three units throughout the month. All three units were operating at nearly 100% load except on **Code Red** days discussed below.

The CEMS equipment malfunctioned twice in August. On August 6th, at about 8 p.m., the stack Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂) analyzer on unit #2 started malfunctioning. The operators immediately called Covanta's CEMS technical specialist, he identified the problem and made repairs by midnight. The system was functioning properly after 1 a.m. on August 7th. The opacity analyzer on unit #2 malfunctioned occasionally on August 19th, 20th and 21st. Again, Covanta's technical specialist solved the problem and the system was functioning properly by August 22nd. Neither of these incidents affected the continuous operations of the RRF.

There were seven **Code Red** days forecast in August for the Washington Metropolitan Region on August 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th. All three units were run at approximately 70% load on those days.

For the month of August, Covanta's certified inspector performed the monthly "Opacity Test" on August 14th. This is a requirement under Title V of the RRF Air Permit. As in past tests, the opacity readings were 0% compared to the Title V Permit limit of 10%.

In the first week of August, the set of four CEMS CD-ROM's were updated to include CEMS data up to July 31, 2002. Copies of the CD-ROM's were placed in the Rockville and Poolesville libraries and distributed to the FIG-SWAC Air Quality Subcommittee.

FIG-SWAC Air Quality Subcommittee – ENSR incorporated the Subcommittee's comments and prepared a revised draft of the Non-Air Media Monitoring Program Report.

The next Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for September 9, 2002, to discuss the report. ENSR will be giving a presentation to the Subcommittee on September 9th and to FIG on September 10th.

Oaks Landfill Energy Recovery Facility: Leachate Evaporation Technology – In August, the leachate evaporator only operated for 4 days. The ground-flare without leachate evaporation operated for 17 days and the backup flare operated for 10 days. Bentech is still continuing its efforts to implement an electrical generating facility.

Contracts and RFP's - Because the ENSR contract expires on September 15, 2002, an amendment to extend the contract was prepared and submitted to the Office of Procurement. A five-month extension is requested to enable ENSR to complete the ongoing studies on the RRF Non-Air Media Monitoring Program and Fall Air Sampling Program. An RFP was also prepared and submitted to the Office of Procurement for a replacement contractor when ENSR completes the ongoing programs.

RECYCLING

Public Outreach – The Recycling Task Force met on August 21st. Filming of the new video on what happens to recyclables and the importance of buying recycled continues. The comprehensive brochure on recycling in the County is being sent to community and business leaders. Illustrated brochures and flyers on recycling, waste reduction and buying recycled in English, Spanish and Chinese have been produced, and are ready for distribution. Staff made a presentation on recycling to the County Executive's Asian Advisory Committee on August 21st. Staff continues to work on the COG Recycling Subcommittee on Outreach. A regional radio campaign on recycling will run in October.

Commercial Recycling and Waste Reduction – Staff continued to perform on-site visits of businesses in August and resolved several complaints. Staff distributed recycling information to participants at the County's Energy Assistance Expo and at Hughes Network Systems. Proposals were submitted and reviewed for the next four issues of the SORRT Network Newsletter and the development of recycling starter kits for businesses.

Multi-Family Recycling – Recruiting the Program Manager of the Multi-Family Recycling Program is underway. Staff continued to perform on-site evaluations of

recycling programs and work with property managers and residents to provide assistance and support.

Mixed Paper Recycling – Paper bags and small illustrated flyers reiterating the do's and don'ts of mixed paper recycling at the curb are being distributed at all outreach events.

Volunteer Activities – Ten volunteers assisted at the HHW collections held at the Transfer Station and in Silver Spring this month. In addition, 45 volunteers provided almost 185 hours of assistance during the County Fair, from August 9-17th.

PILOT PROGRAMS

Mixed Paper Pilot – The August totals for the Potomac toter program are:

8/7/02	14,780 lbs.	18.20 lbs. per household
8/14/02	13,560 lbs.	16.70 lbs. per household
8/21/02	15,380 lbs.	19.0 lbs. per household
<u>8/28/02</u>	<u>16,760 lbs.</u>	<u>20.7 lbs. per household</u>
Total	60,480 lbs.	18.7 lbs. average for August

The current average weight per house for the 47 weeks of the toter program is 19.94 lbs. per household as opposed to 13.99 lbs. per household prior to the program. This represents a 42.53% increase in the mixed paper capture rate since the start of the cart program.

Tubgrinding Pilot – The pilot program of tubgrinding screened reject material has ended; reject material is being shipped to the RRF.

FACILITY ACTIVITIES

Resource Recovery Facility – Of the 52,119 tons processed in August, 858 tons were reject material from the compost facility. For the most part, the facility ran a 3 boiler operation at full load.

There were no significant safety incidents during the month. The facility continues to operate with no OSHA recordable accidents in over 880 days.

There were no generation emergencies issued by Mirant during the month of August; and there was no need to purchase power during the month.

There were seven Forecasted Ozone-Code Red alert days in August on the 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 11th, 12th, 13th, and 14th. During these days, boiler load was curtailed to 70% MCR.

The following environmental activities occurred:

- Performed quarterly cylinder gas audits (CGA's) and opacity calibration error checks.
- Submitted the July 2002 Potable Water Monthly Operating Report to MDE.
- The monthly visible emission (Method 9) observation required by the Title V permit was performed on August 14th.
- The CEMS technician, Syl Ebron, submitted updated CD-ROM's to the County that included data for July 2002.

Materials Recovery Facility – Approximately 1,877 tons of commingled material were shipped out, and approximately 4,916 tons of mixed paper were loaded out and transferred to the Office Paper Systems processing facility.

Installation of the new processing system equipment continued.

Proposals to revise the display of the processing line, (located in the information center) were received.

Repairs to a push wall and a portion of the tipping floor were authorized.

Oaks Landfill – SCS Field Services continued design and field assessment for pipe replacement and system upgrades to the landfill gas management system. Draft plans previously provided to the County were reviewed and comments were discussed with the contractor.

An IFB for subdividing the leachate storage lagoons to facilitate long-term maintenance is awaiting review at the Office of Procurement.

Gude Landfill – Highway and Safety Services, Inc. was issued a Notice to Proceed for correcting several additional ponded areas not included in the FY02 work at the site.

Beantown Dump – Installation of the passive landfill gas venting system by SCS Field Services began in August. The first phase of this work includes installation of 58 gas venting wells. SCS installed 29 of the 58 phase one wells in August. A second phase including installation of 30 gas venting wells will occur in 2003 when a site currently being improved is complete, allowing wells to be installed after final grades are established and improvements completed.

Transfer Station – During August, Covanta shipped via rail 53,443 tons of processible waste from the Transfer Station to the RRF, 2,096 more tons than shipped in August 2001.

Litter was collected by MES along Shady Grove Road from Route 355 to the intersection with Muncaster Mill Road.

The radiation detectors had 21 alarms in August including 4 false alarms (alarms that could not be re-verified) - all but one of the valid alarms were identified as medical isotopes with short half-lives, and as such, all medically related waste material was accepted. One alarm caused by what was later determined to be a plastic beaker with

residue brought by NIH initially registered as Na-22, a persistent compound. NIH was contacted and came to the Transfer Station to sort through the load in an isolated area. The radioactive item was retrieved and the rest of the load was scanned, determined to be radiation free and accepted. A more sophisticated analysis conducted by NIH determined the radionuclide to be Cu-44 (half-life 12.7 hours) which was of a much lesser concern but tends to mimic Na-22. NIH identified the exact source of the waste within their organization and retrained personnel regarding management of waste materials.

Covanta finished work on repairs to a portion of the concrete tipping floor.

Covanta made some curb and gutter repairs in several areas around the site.

Site 2 Landfill Properties – DFS continues to finalize the language of the lease agreement for the Chiswell property.

Solid Waste Facilities Master Plan – The draft report has been mailed to FIG members. The final report will remain in draft form until finalized by FIG and the County.

URS will discuss their initial findings on historical identification and interpretations in accordance with Chapter 5 of the Plan.

Yard Trim Compost Facility – The Yard Trim Compost Facility received 2, 774 tons of grass for composting in August; 858 tons of debris were sent to the RRF.

The malfunction riser that led to the leak of water in pond # 2 has been repaired.

Bagging Operation – In August, 9,010 bags of Leafgro were shipped to distributors. (Each bag is 1.5 cubic ft. weighing 45 lbs.)

Linden Farm Renovations – Under the signed bagging agreement between SCA and the County, the County is to renovate the Feed and Bank Barns. The renovation work is complete. Painting of the barns and silos has been completed.

Out-of-County Haul

Brunswick County, Virginia - During the month of August, about 16,102 tons of ash residue and 6,312 tons of nonprocessable waste were transported to the County's dedicated disposal cell at the Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc. (BWMF) Landfill in Brunswick County, Virginia. About 197 tons of material was recycled at Clean Earth in Hagerstown, MD. BWMF corporate staff completed review of a draft contract amendment that would result in a lease-to-own arrangement for five additional nonprocessable waste container/chassis combinations to assist with increasing waste volumes. The amendment was forwarded to the Office of the County Attorney.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Important Telephone Numbers

General information on solid waste	240-777-6400
Customer Service	240-777-6410
Transfer Station	301-840-2370 (County Office) 301-590-1032 (Covanta)
Materials Recovery Facility	301-840-2701 (County Office) 301-417-1447 (MES)
Resource Recovery Facility	240-777-6494 (County Office) 301-916-3031 (Covanta)
Yard Trim Compost Facility	301-428-8185 (MES)
Internet for DSWS	www.mcrecycles.org

Note: All comments, questions, and suggestions on the contents of this report should be addressed to:

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SOLID WASTE FACTS IN A NUTSHELL

TOPIC OR FACILITY	
Latest Recycling Rate Reported in Montgomery County	37.2% (FY01)
Recycling Goal	45% by December 2002 50% by December 2004
Resource Recovery Facility (RRF)	Guaranteed Capacity = 85% of 1800 TPD on an annual basis (558,450 tons/yr).
Yard Trim Composting Facility (DCF)	Operations limited to receipt of 77,000 tons/year under Sugarloaf Settlement Agreement. FY01 tons received- 59,643
# Residences receiving trash collection by County contractors	84,784
# Residences receiving collection of recyclables in blue bins and yard waste collection	200,725
Term of out-of-county waste transportation and disposal contract with Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc.	June 19, 1997 through June 30, 2012 with an option for a five-year renewal. (Service started on October 20, 1997.)

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

AAR	American Ash Recycling, Inc.
APC	Air Pollution Control
ASME	American Society of Mechanical Engineers
BFI	Browning Ferris Industries
CDL	Commercial Driver's License
CEMS	Continuous Emissions Monitoring System
CFR	Code of Federal Regulation
CIP	Capital Improvements Program
COG	Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
CSX	Chesapeake Transportation Systems
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
DFS	Division of Facilities and Services
DNR	Maryland Department of Natural Resources
DSWS	Division of Solid Waste Services
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FIG	Facilities Implementation Group
HCFA	Health Care Financing Administration
HHW	Household Hazardous Waste
IFB	Invitation For Bid
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
LFG	Landfill Gas
LTTS	Leachate Thermal Treatment System
MCPS	Montgomery County Public Schools
MCR	Maximum Continuous Rating
MDE	Maryland Department of Environment
MES	Maryland Environmental Service
Mg/l	milligrams per liter
M-NCPPC	Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission
MRF	Materials Recovery Facility
MWh	Mega Watt hours
NEA	Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority
NOV	Notice of Violation
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
NTP	Notice to Proceed
OLAC	Oaks Landfill Advisory Commission
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
OPS	Office Paper Systems
PEPCO	Potomac Electric Power Company
PSA	Public Service Announcement
RFP	Request for Proposal
ROL	Reduced Operating Level
RRF	Resource Recovery Facility
SCA	Sugarloaf Citizens Association
SHA	State Highway Administration
SORRT	Smart Organizations Reduce and Recycle Tons
SDAT	State Department of Assessments and Taxation
SWAC	Solid Waste Advisory Committee
TXA170	Computer Interface Program
TCLP	Toxic Characteristic Leaching Procedure
TPD	Tons Per Day
T.R.R.A.C.	Think Reduce and Recycle at Apartments and Condominiums
UT	Ultra-sonic Testing
WM	Waste Management
YTCF	Yard Trim Composting Facility